

HITCHCOCK IS GRATIFIED.

Sends Telegrams of Thanks to Government's Special Agent.

Portland, Dec. 8.—The gratification of the interior department over the news that the government had won the land fraud case, was demonstrated in the following telegram received today by Col. A. R. Greene, who gathered evidence in the big case, and to those to whose untiring efforts the government's success is mainly due:

"Colonel A. R. Greene, Inspector: Accept thanks and sincere congratulations on the result announced by telegram last evening.  
"E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
"Secretary of the Interior."

ARE TRYING GILLESPIE.

Jury Empaneled for Separate Trial of One Defendant.

Rising Sun, Ind., Dec. 8.—Judge Bernal this morning overruled the motion for the discharge of the defendants in the Gillespie murder trial. The defense filed a bill of exceptions to this ruling, and the work of selecting a jury then began.

Demanded Separate Trial.

Rising Sun, Dec. 8.—James Gillespie, demanded separate trial, a jury being empaneled for that purpose.

POOR MURDERED.

Discovery of a Horror Near a Georgia Town.

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 8.—Benjamin Hughes, his wife and two daughters, residing at Trenton, were found murdered at home today. The house had been fired to hide the crimes. Hughes was shot through the heart and skull each, and the woman's skull was crushed with an ax.

Eleven Teams Are Racing.

New York, Dec. 8.—Caldwell Hooper dropped out of the six-day race this morning, leaving 11 teams to contest. At 8 this morning the leaders were: Hoot-Douglas, Vanderstuyf-Stoff, each 1394.

FULL FEEDING 5,000 CATTLE

AN ENORMOUS BUSINESS

BONE ON BUTTER CREEK.

Many More Cattle Are Being Held and Fed for Breeding Purposes, and the Aggregate Is Much Greater Than a Year Ago—Weather Is Favorable to the Stock Business, Being Dry, Cool and Open.

J. B. Saylor, one of the most extensive cattle buyers and feeders of the Butter Creek country, accompanied by his family, is in the city today.

Mr. Saylor estimates that 5,000 head of cattle are being fed for beef this winter in the Echo and Butter Creek districts, besides large numbers that are being wintered for breeding purposes.

This is a much greater number than was fed for market in the same territory last winter. So far, cattle have fared remarkably well. The cold, dry weather is the best possible kind of weather for fattening. The stock eat their feed well and thrive better than in muggy or stormy weather.

Hay is plentiful and the prospects for the largest output of fat cattle ever marketed from the Butter Creek country, are now very good.

1904 CORN CROP LARGE.

Estimates Show That It Is Second Yearly to That of 1902.

The government crop report on November 10 shows the corn crop to be over 2,400,000,000 bushels. The 1903 crop was 2,221,176,000 bushels, and that of 1902, 2,523,000,000, the largest ever grown.

The quality of last year's crop was only 82.4. The present crop is of much better quality in all the corn states except Ohio and Indiana, where it will be about as last year's average.

In Illinois and Iowa corn is now selling to feeders at 35 to 35 cents. In Nebraska it is reported to be as low as 25 cents. In the corn belt of Ohio growers are mostly holding for 50 cents per bushel.

The former today is in much better shape financially, than a few years ago, and is able to hold his crop until the price is satisfactory. He has also learned that it is unwise to sell his entire crop, and will crib more for future possible needs than heretofore.

While the crop is bountiful, other conditions are bullish, and the future state of the market is hard to predict. The lowest December cash price for corn in Chicago was in 1896, when it sold for 22 1/2 cents. The yield that year was 2,285,000,000 bushels, or 120,000,000 bushels less than the estimate for 1904.

PORT ARTHUR FLEET BEING COMPLETELY ANNIHILATED

Japanese Have Range on Harbor and Are Burning and Sinking Everything Therein.

They Can See the Result of Their Work From 203 Meter Hill, and Also Command the Rondstead Outside of the Harbor—Japan Will Be Represented at The Hague—General Gripenberg Has Arrived to Take Personal Charge of the Second Manchurian Army.

Tokio, Dec. 8.—The commander of the Japanese naval battery at Port Arthur reports:

"Observations taken December 7, from 203 Meter Hill, show the turret ship Poltava has sunk, as reported December 6, and the battleship Retvian seems to have sunk, her stern being under water. The bombardment December 7 heavily damaged the battleship Potemkin, which is listing to the starboard, showing the westward portion of the hull, which is painted red."

Will Stop Blockade Running.

Tokio, Dec. 8.—The placing of heavy cannon on 203 Meter Hill will enable the Japanese to sink junks and other craft bringing supplies for the garrison from Chee Foo.

DIED IN HOSPITAL.

Skull Fractured Jumping From a Freight Train.

Walla Walla, Dec. 8.—S. A. Burns died at the Walla Walla hospital yesterday from injuries received in falling from a moving train at Walla Walla. Burns was on his way from the Palouse to Portland, and was riding on a freight car. At Walla Walla he attempted to get out of the car while the train was in motion, and fell through a freight car, fracturing his skull on the rocks 10 feet below. The man was a stranger here, but papers on him showed that he was 22 years of age and formerly resided in Portland.

Will Be Tried December 12.

Abilene, Cal., Dec. 8.—Judge Proctor this morning overruled the motion of Weber's attorneys to set aside the commitment on the alleged grounds that the testimony was preliminary and did not determine the venue or jurisdiction. The defendant thereupon pleaded not guilty, and next Monday is set as the date of trial.

After Senator Burton.

Washington, Dec. 8.—A supplemental brief of the government in the case of Senator Burton of Kansas, was filed with the supreme court of the United States today. It contends strongly for the guilt of the defendant although it admitted the senator's course in the support of the interests of his client, the Klatie Company, was not always clear.

Elect Officers.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 8.—The Menor's convention this morning elected the following officers: President, Edward Benjamin, San Francisco; vice-president, G. K. Dunton, El Dorado, Cal.; treasurer, J. Henry, San Francisco. The other officers will be chosen by the executive committee.

Adjourned Till Monday.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The senate did nothing but routine business at its brief session today, and adjourned till Monday. The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bills were taken up by the house committee of the whole.

Preparing Resolution.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—This morning's session of the Seamen's convention was devoted to routine and the preparation of resolutions which will be presented at tonight's session.

Fleet Annihilated.

Tokio, Dec. 8.—Dispatches from Port Arthur state the remaining Russian ships have been annihilated. The cruiser Bayan was fired by Japanese shells, and is now burning without the slightest chance of being saved. The Sevastopol has been sunk.

Japan at The Hague.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Japan has accepted Roosevelt's invitation to participate in the second peace conference of The Hague.

Gripenberg Arrives.

Makden, Dec. 8.—General Gripenberg, the recently appointed commander of the second Manchurian army, has arrived here from St. Petersburg.

PATTERSON JURY.

Progress of the Second Trial of the Actress.

New York, Dec. 8.—Eighteen talesmen were examined in the Patterson trial this morning, but none were selected as the twelfth juror, and a recess was taken until 2 o'clock. Later, the jury was completed at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Floating Corpse Found.

La Crosse, Wis., Dec. 8.—There is mystery surrounding the corpse found floating in the Mississippi by the police this morning. An unused ticket for passage on the steamer Janie from Seattle to San Francisco was found in the pocket and bore the name of J. Anderson. The police believe the man was murdered and thrown into the river.

Found Asphyxiated.

Paris, Dec. 8.—Deputy Gabriel Syverson, who recently slapped former Minister Andre in the face during the debate on the army bill, was found asphyxiated at his home this afternoon. He was to be tried tomorrow on charges brought against him by Andre.

TWO TRAINS TO BE ADDED.

G. R. & N. Men Expect Many Promotions Soon.

The railroad boys are anticipating with much elation, the addition of two extra passenger trains on the O. R. & N. to handle the Lewis and Clark travel. Two more trains means the promotion of about 20 engine men, four freight conductors and the employment of dozens of new men to fill the places in the freight service, vacated by the promoted men.

It is currently rumored that the two additional trains will be ready by April 1, at the outside, as the tourist travel will be heavy, even before the fair opens, and the company will wish to have the facilities in readiness to meet any emergency. The present travel taxes the two passenger trains to the full capacity, and with the early spring tourist travel, the present trains could not begin to handle the volume of business.

Within the past two years about 20 firemen and brakemen have been promoted, and with the addition of two full passenger train crews, fully 20 more new men would be needed, in the positions of firemen and engineers.

SIXTEEN KILLED IN TACOMA COAL MINE

Burnett, Wash., Dec. 8.—A terrific explosion, presumably from a gas pocket, was ignited by fuses at 2 yesterday afternoon in the South Prairie Company's Acme mines here, and 16 are believed to be dead. Twelve bodies have been recovered, all badly burned. The debris is so dense there is no hope for the men still in the mine. The mine machine shops are turned into a temporary morgue.

There were 40 men working, most of whom are Germans, and off shift at the time. Of those in the scene of the explosion but one man is recovered alive. He is Joe Forsythe, the inside foreman, and he is probably fatally burned and bruised.

Gus Strand, in a searching party of six, had a narrow escape this morning, being overcome with gas. Nearly all the party of rescuers had narrow escapes for their lives, but dragged Strand to the cage.

Thirteen of the victims were married, some with large families.

The state mine inspector is making an investigation. The coroner of Tacoma will hold an inquest as soon as a jury can safely enter the death chamber.

The mine has been regarded as one of the safest in the state.

Burnett is 28 miles from Tacoma, in the coal region on the western side of the Cascades. The mine employs about 100, mostly Finns and Poles.

PLEADED GUILTY.

Doubts Entertained as to Mrs. Langdon's Sanity.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 8.—Mrs. Carrie E. Langdon pleaded guilty to the charge of forgery in the circuit court today. After being sentenced to six months in jail, she was paroled on condition that she return home to California. Judge Foster said he had doubts as to Mrs. Langdon's sanity. She was accused of forging checks on the estate of the late Hattie McCall Travis, with whom she associated at the World's fair.

POSTPONE EXTRA SESSION.

Believed Not to Be Advisable Till Next October.

Washington, Dec. 8.—As a result of a conference with Representative Watson, of the ways and means committee, who informed the president it would be impossible to prepare a tariff revision scheme by spring, Roosevelt has practically given up the idea of calling an extra session of congress before October.

Sale of Draga's Jewels.

London, Dec. 8.—Considerable public interest is manifested in the auction sale begun here today for the jewels and costumes that belonged to the murdered queen, Draga of Serbia. One of the articles to be sold is a bracelet given to the queen by the czar as a wedding present.

Water Ruined Stock.

Baker City, Dec. 8.—A water pipe in a large furniture establishment belonging to the Standard Furniture company, burst last night, and the building was flooded, doing \$20,000 damages to high priced furniture stored on the first floor and in the basement.

Chicago Firm Fails.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—The big grocery firm of Charles H. Stack & Co., went into a receiver's hands today. The liabilities are estimated at \$157,000 and assets at \$100,000.

Chicago Grain.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—May wheat opened \$1.10 1/2; closed, \$1.11 1/2. Corn opened 44 1/2; closed 44 1/2. Oats opened 30 1/2; closed 30 1/2.

WALLA WALLA HAS DEFICIT

FIRST EXCURSION A FINANCIAL FAILURE.

The Garden City Must Dig Up \$116.10 to Square Itself With the O. R. & N.—The Train Was Put on With the Same Requirements Imposed of Walla Walla as of Pendleton, But With Disastrous Effects to the Former Town.

The first Walla Walla excursion train from Pendleton has passed into history, and Walla Walla merchants find themselves \$116.10 "shy" in their \$150 guaranty for the train. The O. R. & N. exacted a guaranty of \$150 from Walla Walla merchants, before they would run the train, the same arrangement that was made with Pendleton merchants. The result was highly disastrous to any hopes of securing Umatilla county trade for the beautiful Garden City. Following is the exact patronage of the train, from the different points along the line: Pendleton, seven passengers; Adams, 12; Athena, eight; Weston, 22; Milton and Freewater, 23; making a total of 72. As the fares from the different points were fixed at \$1 from Pendleton and return, 50 cents from Adams, Athena and Weston, and 30 cents from Freewater and Milton, the total fares collected amounted to but \$24.90, leaving a deficit in the \$150 guaranty, of \$116.10. The company charged full fare, and passengers were rebated by Walla Walla merchants to the fares quoted here.

FOR Y. M. C. A. BUILDING.

State Secretary of the Association Will Visit Pendleton Soon to Look Over the Ground.

E. G. Estabrook is in receipt of a letter from H. W. Stone, state secretary of the Oregon Y. M. C. A., in which Mr. Stone says he will visit Pendleton after the first of the year, for the purpose of looking over the prospects for a Y. M. C. A. building here.

Mr. Stone says that a building to cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000 will be erected here, if the project is undertaken at all.

Pendleton is considered one of the best locations for such an organization in the Northwest, and every effort will be made to complete arrangements.

Einer Sjobloom, a Finn, aged 26 years, suicided at Astoria December 5 by getting down on his knees and leaning his head and shoulders over the edge and into a wash tub one-third full of water, and drowning.

WALL STREET IS MUCH CONFUSED

Lawson Heaks a Bear Movement That Creates a Panic in Many Stocks.

TRADING REACHED AN UNPRECEDENTED BULK.

Events Shaped Themselves as Lawson Predicted Two Days in Advance—United States Steel, Santa Fe, Canadian Pacific and Other Standard Stocks All Involved in the Furry—Manipulator Predicts the Movement Will Spread Widely—One Firm Has Failed.

New York, Dec. 8.—Scenes of wild excitement occurred on the Stock Exchange this morning, and at times the situation bordered on panic. Trading reached an enormous volume.

Lawson's prophecy of Tuesday was fulfilled, and Amalgamated led in the downward crash and fell nearly to points from last night's close, selling down to 53 around 11 o'clock.

United States Steel, common preferred, sugar, Missouri Pacific, Erie and Canadian Pacific are among the stocks which took the toboggan.

Lawson's first bulletin today advised the holders of Amalgamated to "sell your last share," he continued. "Roosevelt is just beginning his work. It is tobacco today. When it gets to insurance and trust companies, business will begin."

He concluded, "Sell sugar and the entire list for the time being." He also advised the sale of Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Atchafalpa, and the sales of stocks the first hour reached nearly the million mark.

After 11 what appeared to be an organized attempt to stem the tide, was made, which was followed by a smart rally.

First Failure as a Result.

New York, Dec. 8.—The failure of T. Baderu is announced from the Consolidated Exchange.

New Serbian Cabinet.

Belgrade, Dec. 8.—A new cabinet has been organized. The former cabinet resigned December 2, on account of a disagreement over building a new railroad.

Bjornson's Birthday.

Norwegian Author is 72 Years of Age and Vigorous.

Christiania, Dec. 8.—The seventy-second birthday of Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the Norwegian poet, dramatist and novelist, was widely celebrated throughout the country today. The city was decorated with flags, and a congratulatory address from the people of Denmark was sent to Italy, where the famous poet is spending the winter.

Despite his 72 years, Bjornson is still full of energy and vigor. His new play, just published, is pronounced by the critics to be equal to any of his former work. It is called "Dagbladet," and in it Bjornson's strong subjectivity has received a power, a color and a life, which lifts the piece to the authoritative sermon on beauty and goodness. The play will be produced at the National theater here early in February, and it will also be given this season in Sweden, Denmark, Germany and other countries.

Bjornson writes that he will return to Norway in the spring and will bring with him a new story, which he believes will interest literary circles.

CONSOLIDATION.

Northwestern Gas & Electric Co. Absorbs the W. & O. Power Co.

A deed conveying all the real property, including power plants, electrical lines and 24 deeds of right of way of the Washington & Oregon Power Company to the Northwestern Gas & Electrical Company, was today filed with the recorder of conveyances of Umatilla county. The deed is signed by Isaac Anderson, as president, and Robert E. Allen, as secretary of the Washington & Oregon Power Company.

The deed was executed in Walla Walla on December 5, before Carey M. Rader, a notary public. The consideration named in the articles is \$10, but the property involved in the transaction is worth many thousands. The transfer is the merging of the two companies. The deed comprises 36 pages of typewritten manuscript.

The bodies of Daniel McCusker and wife, of Los Angeles, have washed ashore at Redondo Beach. Both suicided by drowning, prompted by utter discouragement.

There are 11,000 milch cows in Tillamook county, and fewer than 1000 voters.